



Charlotte Mason's House of Education,
Scale How, Ambleside, UK, 2009

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bank; tell me how many you recognise. What a deliciously happy little burst of song has the willow wren! Before we go on we must try to get a glimpse of the little sedge warbler, but she will be busy with her nest now and we may have to wait for quite ten minutes before she appears. I think I hear her mate over in the reeds opposite singing to her, and do you hear the little kind of screechy note at intervals in his song?

A pair of field-glasses are of great use in bird walks, because it is so difficult to get a clear idea of a bird's colouring unless one is quite close to it. A good deal of time should be given to watching birds in order to learn their habits and if possible to know their chief food, whether it be land or water plants, or insects, or small fish.

In nesting time we very often get a good opportunity of watching the progress of building, and of the different kinds of materials used. The very greatest care should be taken not to frighten the parent-birds, either when watching the nests or eggs; if frightened, the parents will generally desert and leave the eggs, if there are any, to the hands of the enemy.

OUR WORK.

House of Education.

Term begins January 16th.

Parents' Review School.

Term begins January 16th.

Music for the "Parents' Review" School and other Members of the Union,
by MRS. HOWARD GLOVER.

In order to complete the scheme of musical education already set forth in the syllabus of the *Parents' Review School*, it is proposed to publish quarterly in this magazine, a list of six pieces, with which the pupil is to become not only acquainted, but familiar, during the term.

The execution of music, and practice in the technique of the art, is only one side of a musical training. It is also necessary to train the ear to an understanding of the classics, in order that a child may enter into the heritage which genius has bequeathed to him; in order, too, that he should understand and love the literature of music, in the same way that we try to imbue him with an appreciation of all the great masterpieces of writers and painters.

With this end in view, it is suggested that during the coming three months the teacher, parent, or any available friend, should play the following compositions to the children, beginning with one movement if necessary, and gradually extending the *répertoire*, until they become well-known and loved. If no executant is at hand, the services of a pianola need not be disdained, although, of course, it must be regarded as a second best.

A daily musical half-hour of this nature will be found to awaken keen musical enthusiasm in the children, even in those who have shown no aptitude in their music lessons, and the idea of music will be lifted above the drudgery which is inseparable from the practice of technical difficulties.

A clever teacher will further make use of this opportunity for hints on musical form and musical history, as brought out and illustrated in what is being played. The pieces selected this month do not present any great difficulty, and might be studied and performed by the more advanced pupils themselves. They are all published by Augener, 6, New Burlington Street, London, W.

1. *Handel*. "The Harmonious Blacksmith" (Augener's Edition, No. 8152) 1/- net.
2. *Beethoven*. Sonata, Op. 26 (Edited by Buonamici) .. 1/- net.
3. (a) *Schubert*. Song, "Du bist die Ruh'" (Augener's edition of 24 Schubert songs, original key in E Flat, or transposed in C) 1/6 net.
- or (b) Liszt's pianoforte transcription of the same (Schubert-Liszt Album, Vol. 2) 2/- net.
4. *Schumann*. Arabesque, Op. 18 (Augener's Edition, No. 8413) 1/- net.
5. *Chopin*. Prelude, Op. 28, No. 17 (Preludes, Op. 28, Augener's Edition, No. 8068^c) 1/- net.
6. *Sinding*. "Frühlingsrauschen," Op. 32, No. 3 (Peter's Edition, No. 2870) 1/1 net.

All children in the P.R.S. must include the above "Music" in the Term's work.—ED.

**Register of Schools, some classes of which work in the Parents' Review School and are tested by P.R.S. Examiner:—*

Principal	School.	Girls or Boys	Classes Working in P.R.S.
MISS BECK	Fridhem, Heacham, King's Lynn	Girls	Ia., Ib. and III.
MISS COOKE	"Romanoff," Surbiton	Girls	I., II., III., IV.
W. STORRS FOX, ESQ.	St. Anselm's, Bakewell	Boys	II. and III.
MISS GAYFORD	S. Cuthbert's, Twickenham	Girls and small boys	Ia and II.
C. H. GIBBS, ESQ.	37, Sloane Street, London, S.W.	Boys (preparatory)	Ib. and II.
MISS FIELD HALL	High Cliff School, Scarborough	Girls	II.
MRS. LAMB	Rijswijk, Epsom	Girls and boys	Ia. and II.
MISS LEVICK	Edgehill, Peak Hill, Sydenham, S.E.	Girls	Ia., Ib., II. & III.
MISS MAUD	Uplands House, Swansea	Girls	Ib., II., III., IV.
MISS NESBIT	S. Hilda's Prep. School, Purley	Girls and boys	Ia., Ib. & II.
J. W. E. PEARCE, ESQ.	Merton Court School, Sidcup	Boys	Ia. and Ib.
MISS RICHARDSON	Lindum House, Bexhill-on-Sea	Girls	II. and III.
J. O. M. THOMAS, ESQ.	14, Chilworth Street, Westbourne Terrace, W.	Boys	Ia., Ib., II. & III.
H. G. UNDERHILL, ESQ.	Wootton Court, Wootton, near Canterbury	Boys (preparatory)	Ia., Ib., II. and III.

P.N.E.U. Literary Society.—Subject for January: Pope's *Essay on Man*, Epistles I. and II.

P.N.E.U. Translation Society.—Subject for January: From Andersen's *Bilderbuch ohne Bilder*.

C. AGNES ROOPER, Hon. Sec.,

Pen Selwood, Gervis Road, Bournemouth.

From whom all particulars may be obtained.

BOOKS.

The Gospel and Human Life, by Canon Ainger (Macmillan, 6/-). The days of great preaching are not over in the Church; and it is peculiarly interesting to recognise the tone of scholarship, stability and authority, familiar to church-people in the sermons of the great divines, brought to bear upon the problems of modern life, as they are in these sermons by the late Canon Ainger. This volume contains some twenty-four sermons, dealing with such subjects as Preaching, Liberty, Character and Intellect, the Decay of Worship, the Life was the Light of men, Life through the only begotten Son of God, the Vastness of the Universe, etc. Every sermon is marked by new thought, or thought put with new force and incisiveness; and the preacher's touch upon life thrills with Christianity. We are grateful to Canon Beeching for this wise selection of sermons, preached before the critical congregation of the Temple Church, and, therefore, adding to our store of intellectual divinity. The

* The Committee take no responsibility with regard to the schools except as far as the above statement goes: due enquiries should be made by Parents. Prospectuses can be had on application to the Office.

following passage from the editor's preface will give the reader some idea of the scope of these deeply interesting sermons:—"The vindication of the Christian Gospel which had the most attraction for him, and in which he most excelled, was the proof of its suitability to human needs as they are revealed by experience of life. . . . What interested him most in religion was the character of Christ; and the Christian Faith presented itself to him as the God-appointed means for bringing that influence to bear upon the 'hurrying, unsure' minds of men." The dignity and pregnancy of Canon Ainger's style and the directness of his teaching are well illustrated in this volume.

Sun-Babies, by Cornelia Sorabji (Murray, 6/- net). Miss Sorabji has given us one of the rare and precious books which really add to our knowledge of children. We, of the P.N.E.U., are concerned to vindicate children as persons, not at all inferior to the grown-ups in wit, sense, reasoning power, tact and many other things; while, how much sweeter and more loving than ourselves, we know too well. Miss Cornelia Sorabji (in her character as barrister) holds a brief for the babes and wonderfully fascinating and delightful is the "sun-baby," whether he proudly announces himself as a "man-child," or is a mere "woman-thing." The author calls the children "babies," no doubt in playful irony, because these persons of six and eight know how to conduct life down to the minutest detail. But they romp withal, and love and are loyal in the true child-spirit. There is the small Chota Chaudikar of six who "swaggered" in a turban and neck ornament—and nothing else! and who took his Miss Sahib under his protection and managed her and the garden with great success. Then there is Fleetfoot, a "woman-thing" of nine, who kept house for a whole pack of small boys, children left homeless perhaps by plague and famine; and then there is Bhengi, the lovely and beloved little home-daughter, and many others. It is not only that Miss Sorabji knows Hindu children and reveals Indian life with wonderful vividness; she knows the pass-word whereby a very few grown-ups get admission to the secret places of child-nature. Children and their parents will alike delight in the *Sun-Babies*.

House, Garden and Field, by L. C. Miall (Arnold, 4/6). This new volume by Professor Miall includes over fifty nature studies, distinct studies, for instance "Honeydew" is followed by the "Human Hand," and that by the "Freshwater Aquarium"; but those who are familiar with the author's exact knowledge and gift of luminous treatment will hail this volume with great interest and pleasure, aware that they will find in it a treasure-house of really delightful knowledge.

John Bunyan, by the author of *Mark Rutherford*, etc. (Hodder & Stoughton, 3/6). We are particularly glad to welcome this volume of the *Literary Lives Series*. Here is a case where we cannot see the wood for the trees. Everybody knows vaguely about the famous tinker of Bedford and that wonderful tale of his upon which we are all agreed that children should grow up; but a critical life, which gives us some idea of the author's character and of the literary value of his work, in a handy form and written with delicate appreciation and charm, is a great boon to the lovers of the *Pilgrim's Progress*. "It is an inestimable gain," says the author, "that a religion should obtain presentation by genius such as his."

The Book of Angelus Drayton, by Mrs. Fred Reynolds (John Long, 6/-). Mrs. Reynolds has given us a pathetic tale of a pure soul in language of studied simplicity. The "Book" contains the irregular diary of a village postman, who was the son of a poet and of a peasant woman; and is made the occasion for following nature through the round of a year with the sort of feeling which Wordsworth expresses in "There was a roaring in the wind all night."

Walden, by Henry David Thoreau (Routledge, 1/-). This inviting edition of *Walden* with Emerson's Introductory Essay will be a possession to all who love nature and all who seek the simple life; and to all, too, who taste the delightfulness of a good book carrying the force and charm of a unique mind.

Japan: the Eastern Wonderland, by D. C. Angus (Cassell, 2/6). This is an entirely new edition, reset and newly illustrated, of a work which has enjoyed considerable favour in the past both in the school and home. It has been read and corrected by a Japanese gentleman holding an important official position. *Japan* is singularly well-done. A young Japanese student, who studied English law at University College, is supposed to write of his own country and family to his little English sister "Nelly." There is hardly a feature of Japanese life which is not described with the serious directness and simplicity and the fullness of detail which children enjoy in their books.

Russia: The Land of the Great White Czar, by E. C. Phillips (Cassell, 2/6), is written with the same idea as the volume on Japan; the intention is to give children some insight into the ways of life, manners and thought of the subjects of the Great White Czar.

Mothering Sunday (Privately printed); *Home is Best* (2/-); *Suggestions on Bible Reading* (1/-); *The Joy of Living* (3d.); *Self-Examination, Questions on the Ten Commandments* (2d.) (all Longmans). *Mothering Sunday* is one of the *Brondesbury Leaflets* and is peculiarly interesting as taking us to the fountain-head, as it were, of the teaching which Miss Soulsby, from time to time, sends forth for the benefit of both mothers and daughters. Here we get the secret in an inspiring sketch of her own mother, full of "fragrance." After reading this graceful sketch, we are prepared for the wise, bracing, and sometimes pungent, teaching contained in *Home is Best*, a little posthumous volume by the late Mrs. Soulsby, wherein we have cheery and definite counsels for youth, middle life and old age. Clergy wives, too, come in for their share of counsel; and with the racy remarks on children's books, change of air, single women, etc., we are very heartily in sympathy. It is well that the garnered wisdom of such a life should be given to the public. The other three booklets are full of wise counsel, common sense, and devout feeling.

Canada: Britain's Largest Colony, by A. L. Hayden (Cassell, 2/6), is full of information but makes no attempt at literary presentation.

The second volume of M. Thémoin's *French Lessons* (Hachette, 3/6), is excessively interesting as affording examples of the method advocated by M. Gouin, that is, that an exhaustive examination of a subject from a certain point of view should be afforded by a series of language lessons. Here we have, for example, a series on *La Vie Humaine*, in which life is traced from birth to death, the various stages of school life are dealt with in detail, the duties of soldier and sailor are discussed, the family house is built, pictures and statues are added, marriage, old age and death complete the tale which includes various métiers and professions. The sequence is, in every case, well chosen; and one sees that a connected train of thought on such lines would excite a pupil's attention, while each sentence would suggest that which follows. There are *Séries* upon human life, plants, animals, and *Séries Diverses*, anecdotes, well-chosen and striking extracts from various authors, poetry, and an admirable series of short *Lectures sur la France*, in which a chapter upon the government of France is especially clear and good.

Italian Lessons on the Gouin Method, by M. Thémoin (Hachette, 3/6). These Italian lessons are especially well done, and are likely to be valued by teachers who do not understand the Gouin method, because they show how the verb in the indicative present is to be written in every case on the

blackboard; and also the conversational phrases which should be used during a lesson. The early lessons are short and simple, containing just the phrases that the beginner would find himself in need of. The volume is evidently designed for scholars of all ages, as it contains a priced list of wines! The lessons increase in difficulty as the book goes on, and the general notice of Italy with which the book concludes is masterly for clearness and brevity and for the fact that brevity is not secured by eliminating ideas. This is an art which English compilers of brief books do not understand.

Who's Who, 1905 (Black, 7/6 net), is more indispensable than ever; and truly it is an inestimable benefit to be able to turn to its pages and find out all about a name in the newspapers or the antecedents and interests of an unknown correspondent. There must be something like eighteen or twenty thousand biographies brought up to date, every word expressing a fact, the information attested and reliable to a surprising degree. Mr. Wallis Bridge, by way of a chance example, has nearly a column and a half to himself closely printed, and containing a surprising amount of information concerning the keeper of the Egyptian and Syrian antiquities at the British Museum. But this year *Who's Who* has contrived to double its value by publishing its tables as a separate *Year Book*—a most invaluable handbook for busy persons. You wish for a list of city officers, of managers of railways, of London specialists, of titled Americans, turn to the index and find your page!

The Englishwoman's Year Book (Black, 2/6) does credit to the editor and to the long list of helpers she thanks in her preface. The employments, professions and industries of women, women in literature, art and music, women in public work, philanthropy and charitable institutions; in fact, every department of woman's work, and every sphere of woman's special interest, is duly chronicled with many useful details. How useful, for example, is the list of residential clubs and homes for ladies, or again, the classified list according to the district, of all the lady doctors.

P.N.E.U. NOTES.

Edited by Miss F. NOËL ARMFIELD, Sec., 26, Victoria Street, S.W.
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To whom all Hon. Local Secs. are requested to send reports of all matters of interest connected with their branches, also 6 copies of any prospectuses or other papers they may print.

N.B.—Kindly write on one side of paper only.

NEW BRANCHES.

The Executive Committee has been approached with a view to starting Branches in the following places:—

BRADFORD.

CARDIFF.—Names may be sent to Mrs. Hamilton, Blackladies, Dynas Powis.

DUNFERMLINE.—Mrs. Beveridge, Pitreavie, Dunfermline, would be glad to hear from people interested.

NOTTINGHAM.

SURBITON.

SWANSEA.

Readers of the *Parents' Review* living in these districts, or having friends there, are asked to communicate with Miss Armfield, 26, Victoria Street, S.W.

BELGRAVIA.—The encouraging events of this last month have been the complete, and occasionally brilliant, success of the two courses of lectures—Mrs. Goslett on "The Hygiene of Childhood and Youth," and Miss Beatrice